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HYPNOTIC PIANO PLAYING.

Phenomenal Performances by Untrained Persons Used as Musical Mediums.

Paris is very much concerned at present over a new phenomenon, which is called, for lack of a better name, musical mediumship. In the same way that a few years ago the attention of the French scientists was largely occupied with thought transference, now many investigators in the French capital are carefully following the experiments which are being conducted with the musical mediums, states Public Opinion.

In the last number of the Journal des Debats M. Henri de Parville carefully goes over the whole ground, and the facts presented are well worth considering. M. de Parville first takes up the case of a subject by the name of Aubert. "This man, although he had but a rudimentary knowledge of music, performs on the piano, in a semi-hypnotic state, compositions which recall the musical style of Mozart, Chopin, Beethoven, Schubert and others. A second and far more remarkable case, however, is that of Mlle. Nydia. This woman, in a hypnotic state, and with her eyes carefully bandaged, is able to play on the piano any piece of music which may be given her. Thus, at a sitting recently held at the Theater de la Monnaie, in Brussels, Mlle. Nydia was led to M. Silvain Dupuy, chief of the orchestra of the theater, who gave her a piece of music composed by himself, which had never been published. M. Dupuy saw that the bandage had been tightly placed over the girl's eyes. Mlle. Nydia then sat down, held the paper in her hands for a few moments, and then, to the great astonishment of every one, played the piece without hesitation.

"Two physicians examined the young woman, and found her to be in a real hypnotic state, absolutely insensible to the exterior world. There were then placed over her eyes a succession of bandages, alternating white and black, and she was led to the piano. One of the spectators offered a new opera which was placed on the piano. The hypnotist looked at his subject, and immediately the girl played the piece with the greatest cleverness. Another spectator, who had just arrived from New Zealand, offered a piece which had never been performed in Europe. Mlle. Nydia, however, executed it at once, and she played with the same skill a piece which had just been composed by M. G. Germain. At public request she played a piece of Padrewski, which was unknown to her, and, finally, a lady wrote the title of a piece of music on a slip of paper, put it into an envelope, which was afterward sealed, and gave it to the girl. She placed it on her forehead for a moment, and the next instant was playing Beethoven's 'Clair du Lune' sonata."

RESULTS FROM FILTRATION

Evidence of Its Value Shown in the Water System of One Big City.

Recent statistics of typhoid fever in Philadelphia furnish evidence of the value of the filtration of the water supply which amounts to positive demonstration, says the Philadelphia Ledger. In a portion of West Philadelphia still supplied in part with unfiltered water there were, during four months of the present year, 273 cases of typhoid fever in a population of 140,517, or one in 514. In the adjoining section, supplied entirely from the Belmont filtering plant, there were but seven cases in a population of 41,424, or one in 5,917.

A similar contrast is shown in the northwestern portion of the city. The Germantown and Roxborough district is supplied with filtered water from the Roxborough beds. In this district, with a population of 113,750, there were 37 cases of typhoid fever, or one in 3,074. In two neighboring wards, receiving unfiltered water, in a population of 89,142, there were 122 cases of typhoid, or one in every 675. In the northeastern section, supplied with unfiltered water from the Delaware, 1,035 cases of typhoid fever occurred in a population of 144,906—the appalling proportion of one in 140. The difference between the two extremes of ratio shown by these figures represent, in the whole population, the difference between 9,249 cases of typhoid fever and only 220 cases—or exactly 42 to 1. If we leave the worst results from the unfiltered Delaware out of consideration, we have still the contrast that among 567 people drinking the ordinary water from the Schuylkill there has occurred this year one case of typhoid fever, while there was but one case among 3,526 persons using the same water filtered. In other words, the filtration of water has reduced the liability to typhoid fever 83 per cent.

Tridacna Shells.

Tridacna shells are very commonly used in churches in Europe for holy water basins and even fountains. The largest, perhaps, are those in use at St. Peter's, Rome. These shells attain a weight of 500 pounds (the two valves together), the animal itself sometimes being 20 pounds in weight. The word "Tridacna" is from the Greek "tridaknos," eaten at three bites; but who could eat a 20-pound animal at three bites!—St. Nicholas.

Got Cold Feet Early

Mrs. Chips—Why, you're afe early to-night, dear.
Mr. Chips—Yes.
"How cold your feet are."
"Yes, I wouldn't have been here so early if it hadn't been for that."—Yonkers Statesman.

Why the Educated Woman Is Hostile to Maternity

By DR. KATHERINE G. TOWNSEND.
Prominent New York Physician.

It is with regret that I say that the American family is decreasing in size. One has only to study one's own circle of acquaintances to find that this statement is true. The better classes, those who are well off in this world's goods, whether they have had the advantages of higher education or not, do not seem to care for large families, and many of them marry with the intention of not burdening themselves with children, or at least of limiting the number to one or two.

The reason for this is easily discovered in the reluctance shown by women to give themselves increased responsibilities. The mothers and grandmothers of the marrying women of to-day took upon themselves the trials and pleasures of progeny with never a thought of escape. They were performing their duty simply and as a matter of course. Not so with the educated woman of the present. She has turned the question over in her mind, she has weighed the advantages of having a family against those of none at all, or, at best, a family consisting of one or possibly two children, and the majority of her class has calmly and deliberately chosen the easier path.

It is the lack of time due to a multiplicity of demands, principally of the social kind, which has brought about this condition of affairs, and those who look ahead cannot but feel apprehensive as to the future of the race. It is the question of race suicide again.

Selfishness is at the root of the evil. When a woman decides that she hasn't time to take away from her social or business demands to have children, she is displaying a degree of self-interest and inconsideration that bodes ill for her own future and that of the race. And yet this selfishness could not exist to the extent that it does if it were not for the increased knowledge of women.

At the same time there are perfectly natural reasons for the existence of smaller families and the increasing sterility of the American woman. First of all, she marries later than her mother did. She cannot possibly complete her college education earlier than 21, whereas her mother had very likely started her little family at that age. Many young women receive their degrees much later than 21. By that time they have become rather critical, hard to suit, and each succeeding year adds to this state of affairs. The later they marry the fewer children they are apt to bring into the world. So you see how everything seems to work together for possibly the ultimate disappearance of the class.

Liberty in Labor Unions

By JOHN F. TOBIN.
General President of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

liberty is abridged by the state, or by membership in any form of organization in which majority rule is a necessary factor.

To maintain the position that the labor union destroys personal liberty is to contend that one's personal liberty is destroyed because he may not erect a building, or do many other things that would destroy the comfort or property of his fellow citizens.

It is generally understood that law and order, and the proper preservation of the rights, comfort and interests of all citizens are enhanced by the fact that all persons are restrained in the exercise of what they term their "liberty" to do as they please.

Persons joining a labor union, if they intelligently understand the value of their membership in the union, know that in merging their interests with others of a like occupation they surrender their right to make individual contracts for labor, and join their interests with others under the principle of collective bargain. Thus, by surrendering a liberty which operates to their disadvantage, when they endeavor to sell their labor to modern captains of industry, they gain a much higher degree of liberty by placing themselves on a higher and safer bargaining plane than they could possibly occupy in their individual capacity.

The joy of labor is much enhanced by the kind of occupation, and especially by the degree of compensation, and the joy of liberty may be correctly measured by the same standard.

American Trade in the Orient

By DANIEL D. MORSE.
Secretary Boston Chamber of Commerce.

have experienced evidence of a growth of trade on account of the war.

Without prejudice for or against either side, it may be said that the Japanese have shown the most remarkable resources and powers of organization. It is very unlikely, to say the least, that such a nation, even if it should eventually dominate Asia, would adopt a policy so narrow and imprudent as the exclusion of western trade and influences. The Japanese, having adopted western methods, are presumably well satisfied with the uses to which they have been able to put them, and it is supposed that the last thing they would think of doing would be to render less free or friendly the relations between themselves and the powers of the west.

Everything, then, would seem to indicate that the Japanese, if they awaken China and control Asia, will counsel and practice a policy of a wider and more active commercial sphere. In the development of the resources of China and Korea, supposing that their aims are accomplished, the Japanese will necessarily labor for the promotion of a far greater export and import trade. With the waters of commerce flowing freely between the west and the east, it seems certain that a higher level of trade will result.

There is, however, one thing always to be borne in mind, namely that the Japanese will insist probably that favors granted will depend on favors given. Any policy of the western powers that seemed to Japan to be inimical to her interests would probably give rise to some form of retaliation.

DECORATING A CHINAMAN.

Tiny Miss on Railway Train Plays Funny Little Joke on Mongolian Passenger.

Among the several family parties en route to the Pacific coast in a "tourist" car not long ago was one consisting of father, mother and three children. The youngest child, writes Frank B. Welch, in the Chicago Record-Herald Sunday Magazine, was a bright-eyed, restless little girl of five, who soon made herself thoroughly at home with everybody in the car, going from one section to another at her own pleasure and contributing largely to the entertainment of the train-weary travelers. "Little Miss Busy" they called her, and she certainly was the busiest wee woman that ever kept a carful of all kinds of people on the move.

Through New Mexico and Arizona a number of cowboys and Indians came into the car and sat apart from the through passengers, in seats given up to their kind. As soon as settled in their seats, each in turn was visited and closely inspected by Miss Busy. Fearlessly she shook hands with the forbidding-looking redmen and perched contentedly on the knee of one and then another of the big cattle men.

At one of the first stations on entering California four Chinamen entered the car and took up quarters as remote from the other occupants as possible, where they swapped vowels among themselves, after their own peculiar manner, to all appearance utterly oblivious of the presence of others in the car. Not long were they left to themselves. Little Miss Busy soon was in their midst, round-eyed with wonder over their talk and queer dress.

"Hallo, littee baby!" greeted one of the orientals, with an expansive Mongolian smile and a friendly nod. "You littee look see Chinaman? Heay good Chinaman! Littee littee baby all same Melian man pape. My gottee two, tee littee baby gal, all same littee you, China side."

All this appeared to be perfectly understandable to the tiny woman. At any rate, she proceeded with utmost composure to learn all possible concerning the "two, tee littee baby gals" ever in China. She came and went among the passengers with preoccupied manner, something of great import engaging her mind. Quietly she slipped about, escaping the attention of everybody, and not until the Chinaman left the car did the secret of her six missions come out.

Filing out singly, as is their manner of traveling in company, the Chinamen, with the papa of the "littee gal, China side" in the rear, left the car at one of the principal stations along the line. When they reached the platform there arose a tumult of mirth in which everyone in sight soon joined. Papa Chinaman was the perplexed center of the commotion, when one of his companions with a laugh seized the bewildered "chink's" queue, which he had neglected to rearrange when he left the car, and threw it over his shoulder. Catching it in his hand, Papa John held the "pigtail" aloft, and a good-natured grin broke over his face.

"Hi-yah!" he gurgled, catching sight of Little Miss Busy's laughing face at the car window. "Littee baby gal make Chinaman all same foolie! Me ketchee you, takee you China side way off."

All the way down his long queue at intervals of a few inches there were knots of doll ribbons of every hue and color, surreptitiously tied there by the busy little girl as the neatly braided appendage hung down over the back of the car seat.

Waving his gaudily decorated head-tail before him, the jolly Chinaman marched proudly away with his friends, turning at every few steps to shake the beribboned queue at the tiny author of the joke, and calling back: "Me ketchee you, takee you China side!" receiving for answer a wave of the baby hand.

Russian Bonds in America.

That American life insurance companies doing business in Russia have made more or less substantial investments in Russian securities, more especially in Russian government bonds, is a well-known fact, but according to some New York bankers American investments in Russian securities are by no means limited to the holdings of the insurance companies. A banker who is in close touch with Russian affairs stated recently that Russian securities in amounts running into the millions are held in America outside of the insurance companies. In support of this statement he mentioned the fact that he himself had a list of 117 investors in America who were holders of Russian securities. These investments have been made chiefly by Americans who have traveled in Russia and thus have become more or less familiar with conditions in that country. Many of these investments are in the bonds of the Russian railways.—N. Y. Times.

Mistaken Identity.

"Hear about the blunder Bilderbod made while he and his wife were on their trip last week?"
"No."
"You know the train goes through a long tunnel over in Virginia, and there were a number of handsome women on the car, and when the train was rushing through the tunnel Bilderbod—"
"Kissed one of the women?"
"Kissed his own wife."—Chicago Tribune.

Real Difficulty.

Flushly—It must take remarkable skill to raise a check.
Hardup—O, I don't know! It's how to get hold of it in the first place that I can't see through.—Detroit Free Press.

TEMPERANCE NOTES

HOW DO YOU LIKE THE SAMPLES?

Samples of wine and samples of beer.
Samples of all kinds of liquors sold here.
Samples of whiskey, samples of gin.
Samples of all kinds of bitters—step in.

Samples of headache, samples of gout.
Samples of coats with the elbows out.
Samples of boots without heels or toes.
Samples of men with a broken nose.
Samples of men in the gutter lying.
Samples of men with delirium dying.
Samples of men crying and weeping.
Samples of men all evil doing.
Samples of lonely, tired men.
Who long in vain for their freedom again.
Samples of old men, worn in the strife.
Samples of young men tired of life.
Samples of ruined hopes and lives.
Samples of desolate homes and wives.
Samples of aching hearts grown cold.
With anguish and misery untold.
Samples of noble youths in disgrace.
Who meet you with averted face.
Samples of hungry little ones.
Starving to death in their dreary homes.
In fact, there is scarcely a vice on earth but our "samples" have nurtured or given them birth.

Oh, all ye helpers to sorrow and crime,
Who deal out death for a single dime,
Know ye that the Lord, though He may delay,
Has in reserve for the last great day
The terrible "score" of whose sinners weight
No mortal can know till the peary gate
Is closed and all with an accord
Acknowledge the justice of their reward.
—Virginia J. Kent.

THE REWARD OF THRIFT.

How One Policeman Bought a Cory Little Home on His Drink Money.

Above the noise of the Halsted street car two voices in pleasant conversation could be heard. One possessed a decidedly southern quality, and as the remarks followed along it was evident that a colored policeman was talking to his friend, a Pullman porter. In these days of discussion as to all things concerning the race, says the Chicago Record-Herald, it was refreshing to hear this bit of conversation:

"Do you know," said the policeman, "I got to thinkin' one day that a lot of money was goin' for crinkles, treatin' and so on. So I jes' got myself a little blank book and put down all I received and all I spent for 30 days."

"At the end of the time I ciphered it up, and found that \$15 of my income was goin' for whiskey every month."

"When I got home that night I says to my wife: 'Linda, you pay \$20 a month rent for this flat, don't you?' And she says: 'Yes.'"

"Then I told her about my keepin' account, and I says: 'Well, I've made up my mind to put by that \$15 a month that's been a goin' for whiskey, and we'll move into a cheaper flat for awhile, and we'll put by the money and buy a home of our own.'"

"About that time I ran across Joe. You remember him, don't you? Well, he had a house with an \$1,800 mortgage on it. I says to him: 'You know you can't never pay that, Joe. What will you take for your house?'"

"Well, we had some talk, and the upshot was that I paid him \$500 down and we soon moved into one of the nicest, coziest cottages you ever saw. My whiskey money soon helped me to pay off the mortgage, and in a few years the place will be all our own."

"Bring your wife and come out some time. My wife and I will be glad to see you. The number is 578—street."

REFORM NUGGETS.

In America fully 1,000,000 railway men and 2,000,000 more in other employments are required to be total abstainers.

Over 100 alcoholics attacked by pneumonia 70 die, while of every 20 non-alcoholics so attacked only 23 die.

The bartenders of Anderson, Ind., have entered complaint against being compelled to work seven days in the week, and are seeking to have saloons closed on Sunday.

The decision of Judge Bonney, of Portland, Me., in a case involving a charge of assault with intent to kill, that drunkenness could not be pleaded as a defense, is to be heartily commended.

Dr. Jacques Bertillon, the famous chief of the statistical bureau of Paris, has written a volume entitled "Alcoholism, and the Way to Fight It." Drink, he declares, is likely to prove the ruin of the French race unless something is done to overcome the habit.

Every province of the Dominion of Canada steadily increases the restrictions of its liquor laws. Nova Scotia makes the obtaining of a license so difficult that there are only two counties in the whole province in which any legal liquor selling is permitted.

The Cigarette Abomination.

The cigarette abomination has been receiving the attention of our legislative bodies of late. The Pennsylvania legislature recently passed a bill imposing a fine of \$100 to \$300 on any person convicted of giving cigarettes to another. It will be a triumph for decency when the air will no longer be polluted with the foul and beastly odor of cigarettes and old rotten pipes. It is strange how tobacco causes men to lose their manners.—United Presbyterian.

A Moral Lesson.

"A criterion" explained the teacher, "is something to go by. Now, what little boy or girl will give me a sentence in which the word 'criterion' is used?"

After some moments of silence and thoughtfulness on the part of the scholars, Maggie Higgins lifted her hand.

"Well, Maggie, can you give us the sentence?"

"Yes'm, Pat Carrally's saloon on the corner is a criterion on our street."—Judge.